

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-02 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-20 OES-07
SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 IO-14 EA-12
/164 W

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R 301842Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2298
INFO ALL IEA CAPITALS

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 17076

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, IEA
SUBJECT: ENERGY: IEA MEETING ON DISTRICT HEATING

1. THE CONSERVATION SUBGROUP OF THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY HELD AN EXPERTS MEETING ON DISTRICT HEATING MAY 22-23. MR. E. MOE, DENMARK, SERVED AS CHAIRMAN. THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WAS TO DETERMINE THE EXTENT OF DISTRICT HEATING USE IN THE IEA, ASSESS ITS LONG-TERM POTENTIAL, AND IDENTIFY CONSTRAINTS INTERFERING WITH EXPANDED USE OF SUCH A SYSTEM.

2. DISTRICT HEATING IS A SYSTEM FOR DELIVERING SPACE HEAT TO RESIDENCES OR BUILDINGS VIA A PIPELINE IN THE FORM OF HOT WATER OR STEAM. HEAT IS GENERATED IN LARGE CENTRAL BORDERS OR IN CONJUNCTION WITH ELECTRICITY OR INDUSTRIAL STEAM GENERATION. TO MAKE DISTRICT HEATING COST-EFFECTIVE NORMALLY ALL RESIDENCES MUST BE ATTACHED TO THE DELIVERY SYSTEM. THE INITIAL CAPITAL INVESTMENT FOR DISTRICT
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HEATING IS SUBSTANTIAL BUT RESULTS IN LARGE FUEL SAVINGS AS THE EFFICIENCY FACTOR FOR HEAT GENERATION CAN BE INCREASED TO 80-90 PERCENT. ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS ALSO ACCRUE AS THE NEED FOR SMALL INEFFICIENT BOILERS IS ELIMINATED. DELEGATES GENERALLY AGREED THAT THE DISTRICT HEATING SYSTEM WOULD BECOME MORE VIABLE AS FUEL PRICES INCREASE.

3. DISTRICT HEATING COVERS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF TOTAL ENERGY USE IN THE RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL SECTOR IN ONLY TWO IEA COUNTRIES, DENMARK (30 PERCENT) AND SWEDEN (15 PERCENT). NUMEROUS OTHER COUNTRIES SUCH AS BELGIUM, CANADA, GERMANY, IRELAND, JAPAN, NORWAY, SWITZERLAND, TURKEY, UK, AND US HAVE MADE LIMITED USE OF SUCH A HEATING SYSTEM. EXPANSION IN THE USE OF DISTRICT HEATING OVER THE NEXT DECADE ARE ENVISIONED IN GERMANY, SWITZERLAND, DENMARK, SWEDEN, NORWAY, AND THE NETHERLANDS WHILE OTHER COUNTRIES ARE RE-EXAMINING THE COST-EFFECTIVENESS AND POTENTIAL FOR DISTRICT HEATING. ALMOST ALL COUNTRIES PROVIDE A TAX INCENTIVE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND USE OF DISTRICT HEATING.

4. IN THE UNITED STATES, THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY IS STUDYING ENERGY CONSERVING INTEGRATED COMMUNITY ENERGY SYSTEMS, DESIGNED TO USE HEAT FROM POWER GENERATION TO SUPPLY HEATING AND COOLING AND POSSIBLY ALSO SOLID AND LIQUID WASTE CONVERSION. THE

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R 301842Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2299
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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY IS ALSO EVALUATING ADVANCED
TECHNOLOGY AND INSTITUTIONAL RELATED DEMONSTRATIONS

FOR THE COMBINED GENERATION OF HEAT AND POWER.

5. MAIN CONSTRAINTS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF DISTRICT HEATING IDENTIFIED DURING THE MEETING INCLUDED THE LARGE CAPITAL INVESTMENTS REQUIRED, LONG PAYBACK PERIOD, NEED FOR MARKET DEVELOPMENT, VALUE OF EXISTING FACILITIES WHICH WOULD BE RENDERED OBSOLETE, LACK OF INTEREST BY UTILITIES, CENTRALIZED NATURE OF SYSTEM, AND MANDATORY CONNECTIONS FOR ALL RESIDENCES IN THE AREA.

6. WHILE NOT PREJUDGING THE ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF INSTALLING DISTRICT HEATING SYSTEMS, DELEGATES AGREED ON THE FOLLOWING WORK PROGRAM:
A) UNDERTAKE TO IDENTIFY AND QUANTIFY THE POTENTIAL FOR USING REJECT HEAT FROM COMBINED HEAT AND POWER PRODUCTION AND OTHER SOURCES OF SURPLUS HEAT;
B) EVALUATE THE ADEQUACY OF PRESENT INSTITUTIONAL
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STRUCTURES FOR DEALING WITH DISTRICT HEATING QUESTIONS;
C) IDENTIFY CONSTRAINTS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF ECONOMICALLY VIABLE DISTRICT HEATING PROJECTS;
D) DEVELOP OR REVIEW GUIDELINES FOR NATIONAL POLICIES IN THE FIELD OF HEAT SUPPLY SYSTEMS;
E) IDENTIFY MEANS FOR IMPLEMENTING OPTIONAL LONG-TERM HEAT AND POWER SUPPLY STRUCTURES;
F) IDENTIFY AND ENCOURAGE SPECIFIC DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS FOR DISTRICT HEATING.

7. THE EXPERTS GROUP DEVELOPED A QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PROVIDING ESSENTIAL DATA AND AGREED TO MEET IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1979 TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED IN IMPLEMENTING THE ABOVE WORK PROGRAM.
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